

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. -- 10. (cancelled).

11. (currently amended) A therapeutic agent or prophylactic agent, ~~for treating or preventing a disease characterized by an abnormal response to insulin or abnormal insulin levels, wherein the agent which~~ comprises an extract of ~~a plant selected from the group consisting of~~ *Angelica keiskei* koidz., *Apium* and *Cryptotaenia japonica* Hassk as an effective ingredient, wherein said extract is a solvent extract obtained with a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, chloroform, ethanol, methanol, ethyl acetate, and mixtures thereof.

12. (cancelled).

13. (currently amended) An insulin-mimetic action agent, wherein the agent comprises an extract of ~~a plant selected from the group consisting of~~ *Angelica keiskei* koidz., *Apium* and *Cryptotaenia japonica* Hassk as an effective ingredient, wherein said extract is a solvent extract obtained with a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, chloroform, ethanol, methanol, ethyl acetate, and mixtures thereof.

14. (currently amended) A food, beverage, or feed ~~for treating or preventing a disease characterized by an abnormal response to insulin or abnormal insulin levels, wherein the food, beverage, or feed~~ comprises an extract of ~~a plant selected from the group consisting of~~ *Angelica keiskei* koidz., *Apium* and *Cryptotaenia japonica* Hassk as an effective ingredient, wherein said extract is a solvent extract obtained with a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, chloroform, ethanol, methanol, ethyl acetate, and mixtures thereof.

15. (cancelled).

16. (currently amended) An agent for the enhancement of glucose uptake into a cell, comprising wherein the agent comprises an extract of a plant selected from the group consisting of *Angelica keiskei* koidz., *Apium* and *Cryptotaenia japonica* Hassk as an effective ingredient, wherein said extract is a solvent extract obtained with a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, chloroform, ethanol, methanol, ethyl acetate, and mixtures thereof.

17. (currently amended) An agent for the induction of adipocyte differentiation, comprising wherein the agent comprises an extract of a plant selected from the group consisting of *Angelica keiskei* koidz., *Apium* and *Cryptotaenia japonica* Hassk as an effective ingredient, wherein said extract is a solvent extract obtained with a solvent selected from the group consisting of water, chloroform, ethanol, methanol, ethyl acetate, and mixtures thereof.

18. (new) A method of treating or preventing a disease, which comprises administering to a subject an extract obtained with a hydrophilic or lipophilic solvent, a powder, a pulverized product, a squeezed juice, or a juice obtained by cutting a stem, each being derived from a plant selected from at least one of the group consisting of *Angelica keiskei* koidz. and *Apium*, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetes, obesity, arterial sclerosis, cocaine withdrawal symptoms, static cardiac incompetence, cardiovascular seizure, cerebral angiospasm, chromaffinoma, ganglioneuroblastoma, Huntington's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and hyperinsulinemia.

19. (new) A method of treating or preventing a disease, which comprises administering to a subject a food, beverage, or feed containing an extract obtained with a hydrophilic or lipophilic solvent, a powder, a pulverized product, a squeezed juice, or a juice obtained by cutting a stem, each being derived from a plant selected from at least one of the group consisting of *Angelica keiskei* koidz. and *Apium*, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of diabetes, obesity, arterial sclerosis, cocaine withdrawal symptoms, static cardiac incompetence, cardiovascular seizure, cerebral angiospasm, chromaffinoma, ganglioneuroblastoma, Huntington's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and hyperinsulinemia.

20. (new) A method of enhancing glucose uptake into a cell, comprising administering an effective amount of an extract obtained with a hydrophilic or lipophilic solvent, a powder, a pulverized product, a squeezed juice, or a juice obtained by cutting a stem, each being derived from a plant selected from at least one of the group consisting of *Angelica keiskei* koidz. and *Apium*, to a subject in need of enhancement of glucose uptake into a cell.

21. (new) A method of inducing adipocyte differentiation, comprising administering to a subject in need of inducement of adipocyte differentiation an effective amount of an extract obtained with a hydrophilic or lipophilic solvent, a powder, a pulverized product, a squeezed juice, or a juice obtained by cutting a stem, each being derived from a plant selected from at least one of the group consisting of *Angelica keiskei* koidz. and *Apium*.